

Message Text

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71

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00
NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01
AGRE-00 EB-07 HEW-04 /062 W
----- 077738

R 101357Z DEC 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4140
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, AF, IR, UN

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE IRANIAN FUNDING OF UNFDAC PROJECTS IN
AFGHANISTAN

REF: A) GENEVA 9429; B) GENEVA 9311; C) GOUGH/VANCE TELECON

1. UNFDAC APPRECIATED SUGGESTIONS FOR EFFORT TO DEVELOP
PROJECTS IN AFGHANISTAN FOR POSSIBLE EARMARKED FUNDING BY
IRAN. UNFDAC WILL WELCOME NAME OF U.S. EXPERT TO DEVELOP
RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, FOR SUCH FUNDING IN AFGHANISTAN/
PAKISTAN AND INFO RE TIMING OF ARRIVAL ASAP, AND WILL DEVELOP
ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS TO ENABLE HIM WORK UNDER
FUND UMBRELLA.

2. WHILE WELLMAN IS WILLING TO CONSIDER REQUESTING IRANIANS TO
FUND PROJECTS GOING BEYOND TERMS OF IRANIAN LETTER, HE
BELIEVES THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO PROCEED NOW WITHIN
STRICT TERMS OF GOI OFFER IN ORDER TO AVOID UNNECESSARY
CONFUSION AND DELAY. IN LIKE MANNER, WELLMAN BELIEVES
IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE AT THIS TIME NOT TO PROPOSE GOT
EARMARKED FUNDING FOR PROJECTS IN PAKISTAN, WHICH NOT
INCLUDED IN CURRENT GOI OFFER AND WHOSE AGRICULTURAL
MARKETING IS NOT TOWARD IRAN.

3. UNFDAC HAS BEEN ADVISED BY RESREP IN KABUL THAT
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AFGHANISTAN IS NOT PREPARED TO DISCUSS ANY NEW PROJECTS

UNTIL ADDICT TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION PROJECT HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR BADA KHSHAN PURSUANT TO REPORT OF SWISS DR. UCHTENHAGEN. CONSEQUENTLY, DAVIS IS CARRYING PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR PRESENTATION TO GOA DURING CURRENT VISIT. UNFAC HAS IN MIND FUNDING OF THIS PROJECT BY SWISS, ALTHOUGH SWEDES HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST.

4. MAGNUSSON, CURRENTLY IN GENEVA, REPORTS SOME MOVEMENT TOWARD BUILDING OF ALL-WEATHER ROAD TO LINK BADA KHSHAN WITH REST OF AFGHANISTAN, THUS IMPROVING PRACTICALITY OF CROP SUBSTITUTION PROJECTS THERE. MAGNUSSON SAYS THAT GOA HAD ALSO INDICATED ITS INTENTION TO IMPOSE POPPY BAN THROUGHOUT AFGHANISTAN WITH EXCEPTION OF BADA KHSHAN, WHERE SUCH ACTION MUST AWAIT DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE INCOME SOURCES.

5. UNFAC IS CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF SUGGESTING TO IRAN THAT IT MAKE ITS OFFER MORE CONCRETE BY EARMARKING IN PRINCIPLE SPECIFIC SUMS FOR NARCOTICS RELATED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN AFGHANISTAN (AND POSSIBLY PAKISTAN) ON UNDERSTANDING THAT DETAILS OF PROJECTS WOULD BE DEVELOPED SOONEST IN CONSULTATION WITH GOVERNMENT CONCERNED AND PRESENTED GOI FOR SPECIFIC APPROVAL PRIOR ACTUAL COMMITMENT OF EARMARKED FUNDS. HOWEVER, DAVIES AND JONES ARE AWARE OF NEED TO PLAY SITUATION BY EAR DURING THIS PRELIMINARY MISSION IN ORDER TO ADVANCE OBJECTIVES OF PINNING DOWN IRANIAN COMMITMENT AND MOVING TOWARD ARRANGEMENT TO PERMIT DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIFIC PROJECTS. TO THIS END THEY PLAN TO ASCERTAIN FROM GOI WHAT SPECIFIC CROPS IT WOULD PREFER TO PURCHASE FROM AFGHANISTAN. CATTO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, FUND ALLOTMENT, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA09837
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760457-0396
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761255/aaaabvbx.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 GENEVA 9429, 76 GENEVA 9311
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <17 MAY 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE IRANIAN FUNDING OF UNFDAC PROJECTS IN AFGHANISTAN
TAGS: SNAR, AF, IR, US, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006